

SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION 803

By Hensley

A RESOLUTION to honor and commend Cathy Dyer.

WHEREAS, the General Assembly wishes to honor outstanding citizens who go above and beyond normal expectations; and

WHEREAS, Cathy Dyer has served this State as a champion of tobacco cessation, including playing a prominent role in bringing the Tar Wars Program to this State nineteen years ago; and

WHEREAS, sponsored by the American Academy of Family Physicians, the program teaches fourth and fifth grade students about the negative effects of tobacco, and she has served as its official Tennessee State Coordinator for nineteen years; and

WHEREAS, Ms. Dyer has also demonstrated her commitment and devotion to the well-being of animals through her work with the Humane Society and has rescued numerous animals, particularly cats; and

WHEREAS, during the Flood of 2010, she searched for animals in Tent City and the surrounding area in need of rescue; on several occasions, she has personally paid for veterinary bills and food for animals that otherwise might have died; and

WHEREAS, Ms. Dyer has performed in an outstanding manner her duties as executive director for the Tennessee Academy of Family Physicians, a position she has held for approximately three decades, much longer than the average state chapter executive; and

WHEREAS, she has maintained long hours and worked alone over holidays so that her staff could have that time and refused to adopt time-saving strategies that might jeopardize the "personal touch" for which she is well known, while holding herself and the organization to a

high standard of excellence, despite its being understaffed compared to other state chapters;
and

WHEREAS, Ms. Dyer has sustained a long-term commitment to advocating for family medicine and family physicians within this State, negotiating with the American Academy of Family Physicians (AAFP) on several occasions for individual members to be able to maintain their memberships or meet Continuing Medical Education (CME) requirements to maintain licensure; she has closely monitored any legislation that might impact the practice of family medicine or patients in Tennessee and has added pertinent information on new laws, regulations, or concerns to the Tennessee Academy of Family Physicians (TNAFP) website and quarterly journal, which she serves as managing editor, in order to keep family physicians informed; and

WHEREAS, Cathy Dyer also works tirelessly to assist medical students and residents in becoming involved at the State and national level in family medicine-related activities and organizations and positively promotes the specialty of family medicine to medical students trying to decide upon a specialty; and

WHEREAS, Ms. Dyer has also been an active member of the Rural Health Association of Tennessee, serving on its Board of Directors and as Middle Tennessee vice president; she served as the executive vice president of the Tennessee Academy of Family Physicians Foundation and has worked with the American Lung Association and participated in other charitable organizations and events in Tennessee; and

WHEREAS, Ms. Dyer was personally responsible for assisting a homeless couple with food, shelter, transportation, and financial and social assistance that allowed them to attain a higher standard of living and comfort while one of them faced a terminal medical condition, and she provided emotional support for the other person afterwards; and

WHEREAS, it is fitting that the members of this General Assembly recognize the hard work, selflessness, and dedication Cathy Dyer has demonstrated in her professional and personal life and the wonderful example she has shown of how to make a positive contribution to society on many levels; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE ONE HUNDRED TENTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES CONCURRING, that we honor and commend Cathy Dyer, saluting her many contributions to the State of Tennessee, and extend to her our best wishes for every future success.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.